

partially aromatic polyesteramides, aliphatic or partially aromatic polyesters, aliphatic or partially aromatic polyesterurethanes, aliphatic or aliphatic-aromatic polyestercarbonates. The filter material is suitable for the preparation of tea bags, coffee bags, as well as tea filters and coffee filters."

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel Claims 2, 6 and 7.

1. (Amended) A multi-plied filter material [consisting of an] comprising at least [two-ply structure, wherein at least] one ply [contains] containing natural [fibres] fibers and one ply containing biodegradable, thermoplastic fibers made of a member [fibres, wherein the thermoplastic fibres are] selected from the group [comprising] consisting of aliphatic Polyesteramides, [or] partially aromatic polyesteramides, aliphatic Polyesters, [or] partially aromatic polyesters, aliphatic Polyesterurethanes, [or] partially aromatic polyesterurethanes, aliphatic Polyestercarbonates and [or] aliphatic-aromatic polyestercarbonates.
3. (Amended) A filter material according to [claims 1 and 2,] Claim 1 wherein [the first ply is] said natural fibers comprise a mixture of coniferous wood, deciduous wood, manilla, hemp, jute[, sisal and similar natural fibres] and sisal.
4. (Amended) A filter material according to [claims 1 to 3,] Claim 1 wherein [the first ply] one ply containing natural fibers has a basis weight of between 8 and 40 g/m² and an air permeability of 300 to 4000 l/m²·sec (DIN 53 887).
5. (Amended) A filter material according to [claims 1 to 4,] Claim 1 wherein [the second ply,] one ply containing [consisting of the] biodegradable thermoplastic [fibres,] fibers has a basis weight of 1 to 15 g/m².

Add the following:

- 8. The filter material of Claim 1 wherein thermoplastic fibers are made of aliphatic polyesteramides.